

Remarks & Arguments

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that Claims 7-20 are pending in the application, and that Claims 7-20 are rejected. By this amendment, Claims 7-13 have been amended and Claim 16 has been canceled. Thus, Claims 7-15 and 17-30 are pending in the application. The amendments to the claims do not add new matter to the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Claim Objections

Claims 7, 15 and 16 stand objected to because of various informalities. The amendments to Claims 7 and 15 and cancellation of Claim 16 render the objections moot.

Rejection Under 35 USC 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 USC 11, second paragraph as being indefinite. With regard to Claim 9-11, the amendments to Claims 9-11 render the rejection moot. With regard to Claim 12, the Applicants respectfully assert that the limitation "a plurality of frame contacts" is an element different from the element "carrier frame". Furthermore, the amendments to Claim 12 render the rejection moot.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claims 7-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious in view of the combination of Moon (6,229,695) Nishimura (3,914,021) and alleged applicants admitted prior art or the combination of Moon, Nishimura, alleged applicants admitted prior art and Carlson (4,432,733). With regard to Claim 7, the rejection alleges that Moon teaches “a carrier frame to which said touch panel display is mounted, said carrier frame comprising at least one electrically conductive frame contact for establishing electrical contact with said touch panel display, said at least one electrically conductive frame contact having an upper end and a lower end; wherein said upper end resides at least in part within a touch panel display mounting surface of said carrier frame and said lower end is electrically accessible by circuits resident within the confines of said carrier frame” in figure 2 of Moon. However, the interpretation relied upon for forming the rejection is not supported by the written description of Figure 2 of Moon. To the contrary, Moon teaches that the frame does not comprise any electrical conductive contacts for establishing electrical contact with said LCD panel 60. Instead, Moon discloses that the printed circuit board 70 comprises battery terminals 74. Furthermore, elements 72 in Figure 2 of Moon are switches that are in mechanical contact with buttons 26 on the top housing. The top housing is separate and distinct from the frame 40 and the LCD panel 60. The rejection also alleges that Nishimura teaches a frame with an electrically conductive frame contact for the display. However, Applicants respectfully assert that neither Moon nor Nishimura teach or suggest “said at least one electrically conductive frame contact having an upper end and a lower end; wherein said upper end resides at least in part within a touch panel display mounting surface of said

carrier frame and said lower end is electrically accessible by circuits resident within the confines of said carrier frame.”

Furthermore, Applicants assert that neither Moon, Nishimura, the alleged applicants admitted prior art, Carlson nor any combination thereof teach or suggest: A touch panel display providing a shared sensing and display surface for input and output functions. The touch panel display comprises a visible adhesive dielectric spacer and a contact electrode. The contact electrode includes a transparent conductive coating and a visible non-transparent conductive bus pattern. Wherein the visible non-transparent conductive bus pattern overlays the visible adhesive dielectric spacer, and wherein the visible non-transparent conductive bus pattern and the visible adhesive dielectric spacer have an approximately equal visual homogeneous appearance.

Accordingly, Claim 7 as amended is patentable over Moon, Nishimura, the alleged applicants admitted prior art, Carlson and any combination thereof. Claims 8-12 are dependent upon Claim 7 and incorporate all the limitations therein. Thus, Claims 8-12 are patentable over Moon, Nishimura, the alleged applicants admitted prior art, Carlson and any combination thereof for the same reasons advance in support of Claim 7.

With regard to Claim 13, the present amendments render the rejection moot. Neither the alleged applicants admitted prior art, Carlson nor the combination thereof teach or suggest: A touch panel display providing a shared sensing and display surface for input and output

functions. The touch panel display comprises a visible adhesive dielectric spacer and a contact electrode. The contact electrode includes a transparent conductive coating and a visible non-transparent conductive bus pattern. Wherein the visible non-transparent conductive bus pattern overlays the visible adhesive dielectric spacer, and wherein the visible non-transparent conductive bus pattern and the visible adhesive dielectric spacer have an approximately equal visual homogeneous appearance. Furthermore, Carlson teaches away in that the template 30, is a flexible material such as paper, cardboard, Mylar, oaktag or the like. A pattern of conductors are formed in ink on the substrate. The template is partially over-printed with non-conductive ink of a color to camouflage the conductors. Hence, the “camouflage” agent cannot overlay the contacts, or its “non-conductive” property would prevent operation of the amusement or educational game. Accordingly, Claim 13 as amended is patentable over the alleged applicants admitted prior art, Carlson and the combination thereof. Claims 14, 15 and 17-20 are dependent upon Claim 13 and incorporate all the limitations therein. Thus, Claims 14, 15 and 17-20 are patentable over the alleged applicants admitted prior art, Carlson and the combination thereof for the same reasons advance in support of Claim 13.

Conclusion

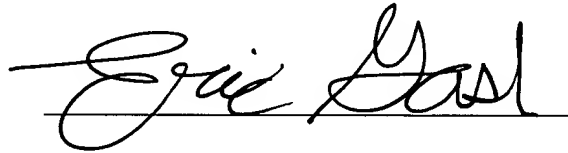
For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and that action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants’ undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Appl. No. 09/844,557
Amdt. Dated October 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 9, 2004

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 23-0085. In the event that an extension of time is required, or may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account 23-0085.

Respectfully submitted,

WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Gash", written over a horizontal line.

Dated: October 7, 2004

Eric J. Gash
Registration No. 46,274
Tel.: (408) 938-9060